

2000P07639US01
60,427-252**REMARKS**

Claims 1 and 11 stand rejected under 35 USC §102(b) as being anticipated by Sheehan. The Examiner states that Sheehan teaches that a tuner device 10 having an opening into which both the tuning pipe 12 and the tubular sleeve 13 can be inserted, and therefore the tuner device 10 has a hose opening and a tube opening. Applicant respectfully disagrees.

Applicant's claims require that the resonator component includes a hose opening for a hose and a tube opening for a tube. In Sheehan, the tuning pipe 12 and the tubular sleeve 13 are both inserted into the same opening in the tuner device 10. The opening for the tuning pipe 12 is in the tubular sleeve 13, not in the tuner device 10 as in the claimed invention. Sheehan does not disclose a resonator component including a hose opening and a tube opening, and the claims are not anticipated by Sheehan.

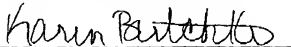
Claims 4-7, 12, 15-17 and 20 stand rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being obvious over Sheehan in view of Akima. The Examiner states it would be obvious to attach an air cleaner component to an end of the tuning pipe 12 of Sheehan, and therefore claims 4, 12, 15-17 and 20 are obvious. In Sheehan, exhaust gases from an internal combustion engine pass through the tuner device 10 and are then exhausted through the tuning pipe 12. There is no motivation or suggestion to attach an air cleaner component to the tuning pipe 12 because the air in the tuner device 10 has already passed through the internal combustion engine. Claims 4, 12, 15-17 and 20 are not obvious, and Applicant requests that the rejection be withdrawn.

Thus, Claims 1-7, 10-17 and 20-24 are in condition for allowance. Applicant has filed a Notice of Appeal herewith. No additional fees are seen to be required. If any additional fees are due, however, the Commissioner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 50-1482, in the name of Carlson, Gaskey & Olds, P.C., for any additional fees or credit the account for any overpayment. Therefore, favorable reconsideration and allowance of this application is respectfully requested.

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Respectfully Submitted,

CARLSON, GASKEY & OLDS, P.C.

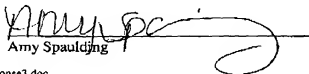


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CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office, Art Unit 2837, After Final facsimile No. (703) 872-9306 on December 10, 2003.


Amy Spaulding

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